

United States Department of Agriculture  
Soil Conservation Service  
Plant Sciences Division  
Washington, D.C.

and

University of Missouri  
Agricultural Experiment Station  
Columbia, Missouri

Notice of the Release of a Variety of Switchgrass

Name: 'Cave-In-Rock' switchgrass (Panicum virgatum L.)

Accession Number: ML-5845 RELEASE DATE: March 15, 1973

Origin: A field collection of seed made by R. K. Lawson and V. B. Hawk near Cave-In-Rock, in southeastern Illinois, in 1958. Annual precipitation in this area is about 45 inches.

Method of breeding or selection: Selection at the Elsberry, Missouri Plant Materials Center based on performance in comparison with other field collection and commercially available varieties.

Description: A late-maturing, leafy, medium-coarse, lowland-type similar to 'Kanlow'. At Elsberry, it is outstanding in seedling vigor, seed yields, and freedom from disease. Forage yields are comparable with 'Blackwell' but average seed yields have been 75 percent higher. It appears resistant to zonate leafspot, (Helminthosporium sp.); while 'Blackwell' and Hebr. 28 are susceptible. It shows little evidence of rust (Puccinia sp.) when grown at Elsberry. It has good straw strength and does not lodge in spaced rows for seed production. Its maturity date is about equal to 'Blackwell', reaching maturity in late September at Elsberry.

Conservation use or potential: For warm-season grass pasture or hay and for critical area planting, particularly on lands subject to overflow or inundation. Its adaptation and comparative performance in Missouri, Illinois, and Iowa has been determined by field-sized plantings. It also has value as shooting-preserve cover and as a wildlife food and cover plant. Because of its stiff straw it may have value for field borders and wind barriers.

Availability of seed or planting stock:A. Breeder Seed

To be maintained by Plant Materials Center, SCS, Elsberry. Breeder seed to be harvested from original clones growing under isolation on the Plant Materials Center.

B. Foundation Seed


To be produced by Plant Materials Center. Foundation seed to be harvested from field growing under isolation and established from seed harvested from Breeder's seed block. Seed from a Foundation planting at the Soil Conservation Service Plant Materials Center, Elsberry, Missouri will be available for distribution to seed growers.

C. Registered Seed

Registered seed to be produced from a field established from Foundation seed. The first three seed crops only may be sold as Registered seed.

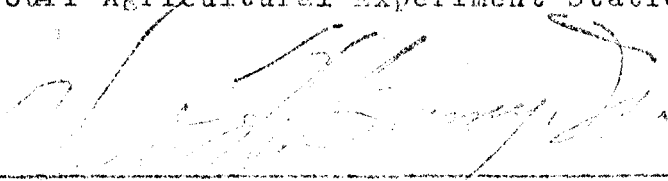
D. Certified Seed

Certified seed to be produced from a field established from Registered seed. A maximum of five seed crops may be harvested and sold as Certified seed. Five Certified seed crops may be harvested from a field established from Foundation seed in addition to the three seed crops of Registered seed.

  
Associate Director  
Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station

3/6/73

Date

  
Director  
Plant Sciences Division, SCS  
U.S. Department of Agriculture

2/28/73

Date